

Ron Sanchez, Albuquerque, NM - Southwest Region

My name is Ron Sanchez. I am seeking your vote for the BFA Board At-Large position.

I am 47 years old and a lifelong resident of Albuquerque, NM. I am a retired Lieutenant from the Albuquerque Fire Department. I have been involved in ballooning for 36 years.

I took my first balloon ride in 1981 when I was 11 years old and was instantly hooked. I have been involved in ballooning in one aspect or another since then. I started out crewing for relatives.

I also volunteered at Balloon Fiesta for over 25 years working pilot registration. I helped crew for many out of town pilots who would travel to Balloon Fiesta. I have crewed and flown many sizes and makes of balloons including special shapes.

I earned my private rating in August of 2003. I earned my commercial rating in August of 2006 and I own my balloon.

I am currently a corporate pilot flying for two different contracts. I am also an Assistant Chief Instructor at one of the local Part 141 flight schools. I enjoy teaching others how to fly balloons. I have over 900 hours of flight time. I have also flown rides for a local ride company.

My children have also been involved in ballooning their whole lives. My son is a crew chief for me on one of the corporate contracts. My daughter was a camper at the 2015 BFA Balloon Camp in Reno, NV and 2016 in Albuquerque. Both of them are also student pilots.

I am a member of the BFA HACD. I had the opportunity to fly in the US National Championships in 2015. I was a resident pilot at the 2015 BFA Balloon Camp that was held in Reno, NV. I was also a resident pilot and instructor at the 2016 BFA Balloon Camp in Albuquerque, NM. I enjoy sharing my love and passion for ballooning with others.

As a member of the BFA board, I would like to represent and be a voice for the members of the BFA. I would like to share ideas and help the sport grow with helping to get more youth involved. I feel like I can help by being a new face and voice on the board.

Thank you for your consideration.

